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The Musical Ambassadors of the Army *Washington*, *DC*

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER GORDON K. KIPPOLA BIOGRAPHY

Chief Warrant Officer Gordon K. Kippola enlisted in the Army in 1982 after earning a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma. After completing Basic Training at Fort Rucker, Alabama, Mr. Kippola completed Advanced Individual Training at the United States Army Element School of Music in Norfolk, Virginia. Following this, Mr. Kippola was assigned to the 6th Army Band in San Francisco as a trombone player.

Other assignments during Mr. Kippola's enlisted service include the 2nd Infantry Division Band at Camp Casey, Korea; the 1st US Army Band at Fort Meade, Maryland; the 8th US Army Band in Seoul, Korea; and the 399th Army Band at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He also completed a staff assignment at the Armed Forces School of Music.

Mr. Kippola was appointed a Warrant Officer in 1996, with his first assignment at the 10th Mountain Division Band, Fort Drum, New York. He then commanded the 1st Infantry Division Band in Germany and Iraq. Prior to his assignment as an Associate Bandmaster with The U.S. Army Field Band, he commanded the 77th Army Band at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.